



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Long Point / Lake Arthur Mastication		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Placer County APN: 077-120-001-000, 30 Acres. Located in Section 19, T 13 N., R 09 E., MDBM	<b>COUNTY</b>	Placer
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Cal Fire – NEU, Steve Garcia		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	13760 Lincoln Way Auburn, CA. 95603	<b>PHONE</b>	(530) 889-0111 x-139

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project area consists of 30 acres of brush covered timberland between 1600' and 1900' elevation. The timber stand is primarily small oak trees and brush with a few large scattered overstory Ponderosa Pine. Forest management has not occurred on site for over 50 years. The aspect faces southeast and slopes range from 5-45% which lead into tributaries of Dry Creek and Lake Arthur. The project is limited to mastication of brush and small trees with follow-up hand work using chainsaws and hand tools. Brush chipping of isolated sites that are above 40% slope will occur to tie mastication units together. Understory vegetation is extremely dense includes live and dead Manzanita, Live oak scrub and trees, poison oak, black oak and Himalaya blackberry. The intent is to install a perimeter of masticated shaded fuel break around the entire parcel from 50' to 100' wide. An additional line will be masticated on the north side of the canal as an intermediate shaded fuel break. Trees greater than 6" diameter will be left uncut unless infested with insects and a likely threat to the remaining trees. An RPF shall identify any trees over 6" that shall be removed. The final phase of treatment will be roadside chipping by hand along Lake Arthur Road.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 – 14 CCR§ 15304 Minor Alterations to Land  
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):  
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)  
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))  
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project involves the use of hand tools and a masticator to reorient understory vegetation. The resulting condition will be only slightly and temporarily altered from the existing conditions of the land. Placer County Water Agency has conducted a biological assessment of the area and identified no resources requiring protection. A CAL FIRE Registered Professional Forester has conducted an environmental review of the project and determined, pursuant to 14 CCR § 15300.2 (a), (b), (c) and (f) that no cumulative impacts will occur and no historical resources or unusual circumstances exist which would prevent the use of a Categorical Exemption.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at NEU Headquarters in Auburn, California.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



*Duane Shintaku* 4/14/15  
Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection